GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1586
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2017
Unnat Bharat Programme
Kodikunnil Shri Suresh

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has launched an 'Unnat Bharat' programme;
(b) if so, the salient features thereof;
(c) whether the programme has been implemented in any districts in the country;
(d) if so, the details of the districts chosen for the purpose and the criteria adopted for the selection of districts, State-wise; and
(e) whether the programme also aims to impart greater technical expertise to members of Panchayati Raj Institutions to conceptualize focused development plans at all levels and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) & (b) Yes, Union Government had launched Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) on 11th November, 2014 to enable higher educational institutions to work with people of rural India and local bodies for identifying development challenges and evolving appropriate solutions for accelerating sustainable growth.

(c) & (d) Yes, the Ministry of Human Resource Development has advised all the higher educational institutions, which are funded by the Central/ State Government, and all institutions which are under approval by the regulatory bodies to adopt clusters of backward Gram Panchayats/ villages in their vicinity, and apply their knowledge and expertise to improve the infrastructure in Gram Panchayats (GPs). The details of the districts adopted state-wise are given in Annexure. Higher Educational Institutions have been advised for selecting clusters of five villages each in these districts.

(e) Yes, the programme also aims to use the expertise of the members of Panchayati Raj Institutions to conceptualize focused development plans at Gram Panchayat level. For this purpose, a Tripartite Agreement between Ministry of Human Resource Development, Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Panchayati Raj had also been signed on 12th January, 2017 to bring substantial positive improvements in the formulation and delivery of developmental schemes in the rural areas. The local bodies would benefit from the knowledge inputs of the educational institutions.

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